

# Government shutdown explained

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After 33 days, the partial government shutdown President Donald Trump enacted is still in effect.

The shutdown happened as a result of the inability of lawmakers to reach an agreement about funding for Trump’s proposed border wall. Trump is requesting \$5.7 billion in funding for the border wall and border security.

The shutdown affects nine of 15 federal departments. Those departments are agriculture, commerce, justice, homeland security, the interior, state, transportation, health and human services and housing and urban development.

There is a wide range of problems caused by the shutdown, including thousands of federal employees left without jobs or forced to work without pay and food not undergoing proper inspections.

While the departments closed by the shutdown have been deemed ‘nonessential’ by the government they do still have an impact on the general population.

## Financial Aid

The shutdown has a limited impact on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid process, the delivery of federal student aid and student loan repayment functions.

However, according to Federal Student Aid, some of the systems they use are run by other federal agencies which are closed during the shutdown and are working on adapting the process for filing to help compensate for the shutdown.

## The shutdown breakdown

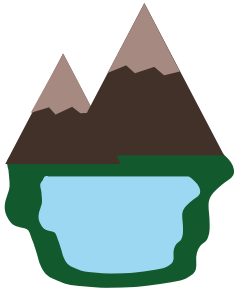
The government has been shutdown for 33 days, the longest shutdown in U.S. history



### How is the general public affected?

The government is partially shut down, meaning only some federal departments are closed. The departments that are affected can have a direct impact on the general public.

Many departments are still working and servicing the public even though they are not being funded and the employees are not being paid.



### Can you visit the national parks?

Yes and no. Around 418 national parks are closed due to the shutdown but many are still open to the public.

Many parks are experiencing issues related to the lack of employees. Parks have seen an increase in littering, people camping in restricted areas, human waste along roads and overflowing restroom sites. The National Park Foundation has begun asking for donations and volunteers to help keep the parks clean during the shutdown.



### Are all federal workers losing pay?

While many federal workers have been furloughed and are not working, or are working without pay, they will not always be without a paycheck. A bill signed into effect Jan. 16 guarantees once funding is restored to all federal agencies affected by the shutdown, all employees who were furloughed will receive pay.



### Is financial aid affected?

The shutdown will have a limited effect on financial aid for both the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years. It will not impact the FAFSA process, delivery of student aid and student loan repayment.

Some males who are attempting to register for 2019-20 financial aid may experience issues if they are not registered in the Selective Service System.



### Does the shutdown affect food?

The FDA has stopped inspecting a variety of foods which are considered to be at high risk of contamination. This includes foods like seafood, fruit and vegetables. This means they are not checking for things like salmonella or even pest infestations.

Sources: VOX, FDA, Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019, National Parks Conservation Association, National Park Foundation

RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest Director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Assistance Charles Mayfield said the University is experiencing minimal issues in regards to the shutdown and the issues they are seeing are due to other areas of the government being closed. With other parts

of the government being shutdown, some needed database matches are not happening.

“We are seeing an impact, but it is indirect,” Mayfield said. “When a student applies for financial aid when they complete the FAFSA and they make that submission, there

are some database matches that happen and that is one area where we are seeing the impact.”

Mayfield said one area causing delays in registering for financial aid is the Selective Service System database as it requires all males to be in the system in order to receive

financial assistance. But many students are experiencing issues because they are not registered and they cannot move forward in the registration process.

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## Sen. Roy Blunt visits campus

RACHEL ADAMSON  
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Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo, made a stop at the University to give a brief speech during the eighth annual Martin Luther King Jr. peace brunch Jan. 21.

In his speech, Blunt talked about some of the hardships King endured that still prevail today.

“Our nation is a big, vibrant democracy with a lot of diversity and dealing with that diversity has always been a challenge,” Blunt said. “We’re not as good as we would like to be, and this is a good time every year to really think about what it takes to be who we would like to be.”

Following his speech, Blunt spoke to the press about the partial

government shutdown.

Blunt said it is going to take “putting more things on the table” to end the current partial shutdown and said his sense of solving this would be to deal with the short-term problems.

“People that are coming to work every day because they are essential employees I think should be paid right now,” Blunt said. “The Congress has made the decision to go ahead and pass a law in advance that said every federal employee is going to get paid whether they are allowed to work or not but at this point, that pay wouldn’t come until the government reopened.”

SEE BLUNT | A5



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

President John Jasinski, center, welcomes Sen. Roy Blunt, right, to the campus for the peace brunch held in the ballroom on the third floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

## Use tax expected to reappear on April ballot

MASON BIGLER  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Five months after being rejected by voters, the use tax will be seen again on the April 1 ballot.

City Manager Greg McDanel hoped to pass the use tax which would apply a 2.375 percent tax on purchases made online from out-of-state vendors.

McDanel said he believes the use tax failed largely due to the complexity of the issue.

“The use tax is a complicated ballot measure,” McDanel said. “Not only is it a complicated process for people to understand, out-of-state, online sales tax versus not collecting locally, but there needs to be a lot more voter education on what it means to the community.”

In addition to the complexity of the use tax, there were many

other complicated bills and issues on the midterm ballot. Moving forward, McDanel plans to watch issues on upcoming ballots to ensure the use tax does not intrude on more controversial issues, decreasing its chances.

“We had three medical marijuana issues, minimum wage, fuel tax, and then here is the use tax, and unfortunately it has the word ‘tax’ in it,” McDanel said.

Due to the greater controversy behind these ballots, many voters paid less attention to the use tax. The word “tax” also helped to drive many who had not taken the time to research it away.

McDanel hopes to pass the use tax as soon as possible.

“The longer we wait, the more revenue that is not recaptured to improve the Maryville community,” McDanel said.

McDanel had multiple changes planned for his new campaign approach.

“More emphasis on what it means to local business, where the money will be spent,” McDanel said. “Stabilizing local sales tax revenues that already fund basic services, capital improvements and those kinds of things.”

McDanel encouraged students to look out for on-campus visitors giving out information on the tax starting in February. There will also be flyers, community presentations and social media videos for the educational use of students and citizens alike.

Student opinion on the bill has been split, some supporting it, some disagreeing with the bill and others feeling neutral towards it. Senior Joe Costello and junior James Troester fell into the third category.

“I hate taxes, but I understand the need for them,” Costello said.

Costello then recommended McDanel should try to change the phrasing of the bill. Costello expressed the desire for a greater explanation of how the tax is beneficial and where the money will go.

Senior and Residential Assistant Gavin Ragland supported the tax, especially if it went to road maintenance.

“I think it could be a good idea and could benefit the community and even the shipping companies,” Ragland said.

Due to ever-increasing online sales, this tax shows the capability to benefit Maryville. Regardless of whether the tax passes, shipping companies will see greater business due to increased online sales.

However, Ragland also stated that he would prefer for the city

government to apply this tax cautiously, as, in his experience, the internet can be easily angered when taxed too greatly.

Ragland also had ideas for McDanel to consider for the bill.

“[They] could do something like a package under five pounds being half percentage,” Ragland said. “Because of generally smaller items, you can fit a lot more of them in a vehicle ... they’re lighter, they use less fuel, and have less effect on the road.”

McDanel was quick to try and dispel Gavin’s fears.

“Any time a tax is considered, there’s obviously some who are going to be upset about it,” McDanel said. “[But] it really comes down to do you want to give back to the place you live? Do you want to contribute to the collective as everybody else does?”



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# Fresh faces

## Northwest welcomes new faculty, staff

**MAKENZI TURLEY**  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Five new faculty and staff additions have been hired to Northwest. These new members are Jordyn Dreher, Jordyn Greenhaw, Matt Woolery, Rian Anderson and Tammy Hamilton. These fresh faces all started at the beginning of the spring semester. Each person brings something unique to the table.



**JORDYN GREENHAW**

Jordyn Greenhaw started working as Northwest’s event coordinator Jan. 7. Greenhaw is originally from Maryville, and she went to school at Northwest. She earned her bachelor’s degree in parks and recreation management along with a minor in sports psychology. Previously, Greenhaw worked as an aquatic supervisor in Bonner Springs, Kansas. After her time in Bonner Springs, she moved back to Maryville to pursue a job as the chamber director.

The events she planned at the chamber were more tourism and community-based events which included the Chamber Christmas Parade. She then moved to the parks and recreation department within the city which allowed her to gain more experience in the event planning field.

Greenhaw is eager to dive into her work at Northwest. “I’m just excited to be able to learn more about the events that we currently have going on and what we can do to either spruce them up or what possible new events we could add the following years after I’ve learned everything,” Greenhaw said. “I can’t wait to be a part of the Northwest community again.”



**MATT WOOLERY**

Matt Woolery is a graduate student at Northwest. He also works as a web designer in the Office of University Marketing and Communication. Woolery started working for the University Jan. 7. “This opportunity became available and it kind of lined up with my career goals, so I decided to take the opportunity,” Woolery said. “That’s the good thing about Northwest. They do have a lot of positions for alumni and the people who go here.”

He earned his bachelor’s degree in computer science from Northwest and is working toward a master’s degree in applied computer science.

While working at Northwest, Woolery plans on gaining more experience and networking opportunities. “I’m excited to gain more experience in my field, work on the [Northwest] website, to meet new people and build stronger connections with other employees,” Woolery said.



**JORDYN DREHER**

Jordyn Dreher began employment in the Registrar’s Office Jan. 2 as an academic scheduling specialist. Dreher graduated from Northwest in May 2018 with a bachelor’s degree in business technology and a minor in art. While in school, Dreher helped run her family’s business in Mound City, Missouri. She graduated in May 2018 with her degree as a part-time student while also helping her family with their construction company.

“I am really looking to grow and advance through the University. I might take some more classes and maybe pursue my master’s degree,” Dreher says.



**RIAN ANDERSON**

Rian Anderson started working as a custodian in December. Previously, Anderson was employed at Subway, and he is an active member of the 443rd Transportation Company of the U.S. Army Reserve.



**TAMMY HAMILTON**

Tammy Hamilton became a custodian for Northwest in December. Before coming to Northwest, she was employed by Kawasaki Motors.

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# Dining fixes system issues after update

**HALLE CORNELIUS**  
Missourian Reporter | @themissourian

In an effort to become more interactive for students, Campus Dining integrated a new web-based point-of-sale system.

The update was made over winter break, causing several issues out of the gate that have since been resolved. The old point-of-sale system was on site meaning it was backed up using various forms of storage devices. The transition to a web-based server is aimed to make the system more flexible and personal.

Director of Aramark Spencer Martin said Aramark had been planning the update for about a year.

"This update has been discussed for the better part of a year now," Martin said. "The unique piece of the puzzle to solve at Northwest was the integration of the existing vending program. With the previous system, we were able to allow students one card that could be utilized everywhere on campus and wanted to keep this piece."

Along with the new point-of-sale system, Campus Dining is introducing Bearcat Account Center. Students will now be able to view meal plan information and have the ability to deactivate a lost or stolen Bearcat Card.

The process of updating the system has caused some problems affecting students. Problems with

the Bearcat Cards forced a number of students to be issued a new one.

In response, Campus Dining sent out an email regarding the update among the point-of-sale system. Students experiencing problems with their cards were instructed to go to the University ID Office or Campus Dining office.

Meal plans weren't showing up for some, leading to meal charges at the J.W. Student Union. For those students, cashiers wrote down their 919 numbers and meal plan and sent it to the accounting office. The accounting office was then in charge of taking the charges back off.

The Bearcat Cards were also experiencing problems at beverage vending machines. The machines were not reading the cards, but that has since been fixed.

The new update no longer favors Dominos and Pizza Hut. They can no longer accept Bearcat Cards as a form of payment.

Another concern among students was Starbucks not accepting gift cards. Aramark's new update will accept gift cards both magnetic and on mobile apps, according to Martin.

Despite the problems with updating the system, a cashier at the Bearcat Commons Michelle Ashley is certain the update will be beneficial to students.

"It should be quicker and faster



MORGAN JONES | NW MISSOURIAN

With the integration of a new point-of-sale system, Campus Dining has introduced its new Bearcat Account Center.

to get through the register when you come through. Also, they put a new credit card machine that you can swipe your own credit card instead of handing it to us," Ashley said.

The new credit card machine is part of the efforts to build security.

Aramark has also updated their card system to a 16-digit ISO number, similar to credit cards.

While there were some problems with the implementation of the new update, Aramark is looking forward to the new features of

the update including increased security and flexibility.

"The upgrade will allow us to grow with emerging market trends in the way we are able to provide dining options for students and campus as a whole," Martin said.

# Greek Life searches for new coordinator

**RACHEL ADAMSON**  
Campus News Editor | @rachadamsonn

Northwest is looking to hire a coordinator of Greek Life to fall in line with the strategic initiatives and action items listed as a part of the Greek Life Visioning Plan.

The goal of the Greek Life Visioning Plan is to curate a long-term vision for a robust Greek community. The Greek Life Visioning Plan was incorporated into the Greek community January 2017. The Greek Life Visioning Plan Executive Summary wasn't publicly released until recently.

The University decided "appropriate timing" back in November 2015 called for the start of a Greek Life vision plan. The appropriate timing mentioned in the Greek Life Visioning Plan Executive Summa-

ry is referring to the suspension of Tau Kappa Epsilon Delta Nu chapter for violations of Greek Life risk management policies.

The Greek Life Visioning Plan Executive Summary includes the reasoning behind the need for a plan, those involved in the project, how the project was executed, a vision statement for Greek Life, goals for Greek Life and a hefty list of strategic initiatives and action items to be taken followed by the projected outcomes.

The Greek Life Visioning Plan was headed by past Greek Life Coordinator Lauren Stehlik and put into action by Assistant Director of Greek Life Megan DeShon-Runge when she started working for the University September 2017.

"A lot of this was prompted be-

cause of things that were going on campus in 2014-15. Things went on with TKE; TKE ended up being removed from campus," DeShon-Runge said. "They wanted to come out with what are our issues, what is keeping us from really moving forward as a Greek Life department in Student Affairs. That's where they made this."

In the Greek Life Visioning Plan is strategic initiative and action item number 3.4.1 that says "add one additional full-time professional the Greek Life team" which is where the new hiring position comes into play.

DeShon-Runge said she is excited to add another professional to Greek Life and receive support.

"I started in September of last year, and I feel like it has been put-

ting out dumpster fires and treading water, just getting the very basic things done as fast as we can. Hopefully, with this new position, we can use the visioning plan and start looking at where we want to be in five years and how to get there," DeShon-Runge said. "Hopefully we can start putting those stepping stones into place."

Assistant professor and Phi Mu Faculty Advisor Joy Daggs was one of the members who made up the Task Force Membership to help create the Greek Life Visioning Plan. Daggs said she hopes the new Greek Life Coordinator hire focuses on academics, and highlights how Greek Life can help with academic success.

"I told Megan I want to continue being on the hiring committee

for the new person because I am a more active voice for that," Daggs said. "I'm an academic advisor for one of the chapters here on campus so I keep a little toe in Greek Life as much as I can."

The position for a coordinator of Greek Life application opened Dec. 1. DeShon-Runge said there is already a strong candidate pool. She is the chair of the hiring committee and will start looking through applications Feb. 1.

"I'm really hopeful that we can get someone in here who can hit the ground running who is super passionate about Greek Life," DeShon-Runge said. "I think Northwest has the potential to have a strong Greek Life community. I think this position is going to be awesome for that."

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# No reason to stress over mess



ANGEL TRINH  
Opinion Columnist  
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My mom’s first observation when she visited me was the tidiness of my room, or rather the lack of it. My unmade bed and paper-littered desk stood no match against my roommate’s folded blankets and perfectly stacked textbooks.

“Kayla’s side of the room is cleaner than yours,” she said immediately.

With the top shelf covered in

decorative knick-knacks and half of my desk used as storage space for notebooks I never use and books I have yet to read, my workspace becomes messy quickly.

Having a mess on my desk isn’t the end of the world. Actually, I am better off with the clutter. Several psychological studies have shown some benefits in keeping a disorderly work area.

Researchers at University of Minnesota found that the participants in their study produced the same number of ideas regardless of the work environment. However, the participants who stayed in a messy room generated ideas that were rated more interesting and

innovative than the people who worked in clean rooms.

Historically, highly intelligent and creative people were pictured with a messy desk because a clean desk was considered a sign of laziness before the 20th century. Mark Twain, for example, chose to leave his desk cluttered whenever someone took a photo of him.

Albert Einstein also kept a messy desk. He preferred the disorganization in his work environment.

“If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind, of what, then, is an empty desk a sign?” Einstein said.

I like my messy room. It may just look like a pile of papers and books, but I know where every-

thing is placed.

However, people may choose to keep a clean work area for other advantages, like improved health habits. According to the American Psychological Association, a study consisting of multiple experiments by Kathleen Vohs found working in a tidy room encourages people to eat healthfully, sleep better and give to charity more often.

Professionals in the decluttering business say their clients typically experience less stress and anxiety, feel more self-confident and have stronger decision-making skills after cleaning their home and work areas.

On the contrary, Columbia

Business School professor Eric Abrahamson wrote “A Perfect Mess” to discuss the rewards of disorder. He said people often fail to recognize the opportunity costs of keeping a tidy work area. For example, devoting specific time to maintain an orderly environment means having less time to spend on projects.

A messy work area is better for college students because the increased creativity will only help develop problem-solving skills which will be important when students enter the workforce.

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OUR VIEW:

## Solution to shutdown is compromise

The partial government shutdown is a clear example of how our representatives and president are not looking for compromise but instead are using sheer will to get what they want.

The shutdown is in day 33, now the second longest in the history of the United States (1995-1996).

The issue behind the shutdown is the inability of Congress and President Donald Trump to agree on appropriations for the border wall he has requested.

The shutdown has closed nine out of 15 federal departments: agriculture, commerce, justice, homeland security, the interior, state, transportation, health and human services and housing and urban development.

Meaning agencies like the Transportation Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service, Food and Drug Administration and Center for Disease Control, to name a few, are unable to function at full capacity as they do not have the funding needed to do so.

Some TSA workers are working without pay or refusing to work slowing down the security process in several airports. The IRS has only 57 percent of its usual workforce and only certain aspects of the agency are functioning which could affect how quickly people get their tax returns.

Forty-one percent of FDA workers have been furloughed. The FDA is currently unable to perform as many inspections as they typically do, meaning they are only performing one-third of the inspections needing to be done right now. Inspections of fruit, vegetables and seafood have come to a stop.

Funding for food stamps programs is dwindling and may run out come February if the shutdown does not come to an end.

Thankfully, as students, there is

not much to be concerned about as far as financial aid goes. There have been issues with obtaining IRS documents needed for the FAFSA application, but the overall effect on financial aid is minimal as the Department of Education is not one of the nine departments that have been closed.

The nation cannot continue in this state. While the effects of the shutdown may not feel too close to home, with each day that passes the effects creep closer and closer to interfering with our daily lives.

Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo, stated during his visit to campus Monday that putting more options into the picture may lead to an agreement on the wall, just as President Dwight D. Eisenhower did when the country entered World War II in 1941. The difference is, there was a legitimate threat to the country then. There was no government shutdown either.

Since the shutdown began, most Republicans have stood by Trump’s demand that any legislation to reopen the government must include funding for the wall. Democrats, on the other hand, oppose the idea.

Compromise is going to be what brings this shutdown to an end.

According to Vox, Trump proposed a compromise earlier this week. If he is given \$5.7 billion for the wall he will extend existing precautions for some immigrants. This would include extensions for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and those under Temporary Protection Status.

While this may not be what everyone wants, this compromise is the step in the right direction on the path our country needs to go down.

The thing about compromises is that no one will be 100 percent happy. Everyone must give and take.



LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

# Quick reactions lead to serious consequences



JAMES CHRISTENSEN  
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America claims to be a country where everyone is treated equal, but that is a complete lie.

The political and societal climate in the United States has made discrimination and violence commonplace, and a constant source of concern for various individuals who just want to make this country a place where everyone is welcome.

The inherent racism from the current administration has resulted in people thinking that it is OK to attack people on the basis that they are different, the most recent example being the confrontation between some high school students and Na-

tive Americans in the nation’s capital earlier this week.

The encounter became the latest touch point for racial and political tensions in America, with diverging views about what really had happened.

According to the New York Times, a group of students from Covington Catholic High School in Kentucky was involved in a confrontation with members of a religious group that was shouting racially combative slurs at them.

This resulted in Nathan Phillips, an elder of the Omaha people, stepping in to try and diffuse the situation. What became of this encounter was an overwhelming amount of hate toward the students of Covington Catholic, who in all reality did not do anything wrong.

While the true story of this event was foggy at first, it paints a picture that is completely different than what was originally presented. The video of this confrontation has since gone viral and brings the conversation of racism back to the foreground of everyone’s minds.

However, the media once they had the story with only a few of the facts basically vilified the high school students as the ones who initiated the incident. This resulted in direct threats toward the families of these students and their school district.

While it was later rectified by the media, people were condemning these boys for their actions before knowing the whole story and believed that they were the ones responsible based on what they were

wearing and how they looked in all of the images and videos. However, it has once again ignited the conversation of race and racism in the United States and it is one that has become based in history.

History has shown that so many conflicts were based on the concepts of race or differences between various groups, and the recent events in Washington are no different. The simple fact is we are all human and deserve to be respected and celebrated for who each of us is as an individual and what is contributed to society as a whole.

The events of Charlottesville, Ferguson and countless other places made it abundantly clear that the issue of race is still rampant in this nation and stems from the people in office and the over-

all culture being stressed by the current administration.

President Donald Trump helped this culture of racism find a place in society and become an even larger issue for humanity. According to the Washington Post, it has come blatantly obvious that if the president thinks it’s OK to be racist, then everyone else thinks it’s OK.

I realize racism is not a new issue in this country, but it is something everyone is dealing with and it is a conversation some people are not willing to have. While the students did not do anything wrong, they were turned into the instigators of the incident by social media and a lack of information on the event.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

STAFF

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Sen. Roy Blunt speaks to the press about the impending issues the government shutdown may cause. Blunt made the trip to Northwest for the MLK peace brunch, but also gave time for the press to ask for updates on the shutdown.

SHUTDOWN  
CONTINUED FROM A1

“It may cause some delay but we hope that delay won’t last very long,” Mayfield said. “We hope that eventually everything will get processed and they can continue to move forward in the financial aid process.”

Mayfield said another area causing issues is the IRS because some documents from that department are required in the financial aid process.

“Students and parents can’t request tax return transcripts, and sometimes we are required to confirm that the student didn’t file taxes and they have a letter, they call it a letter of nonfiling, and the IRS is not processing requests for those,” Mayfield said. “So in those cases, it has become more difficult for families to document their income because we are required to collect information from the IRS.”

However, Mayfield said the Department of Education has been working with financial aid offices and provided them with a work-around for the required IRS documents. He hopes the changes will make the process easier for students to provide him with the needed documents, but it has also been causing some confusion.

“There are some things changing to try and account for some of this, but it is causing some students a bit of a delay and causing them to get a little bit of mix information,” Mayfield said.

Mayfield encourages anyone experiencing problems to let his office know and they will help them with any issues they may be having.

“Just to continue like they normally would in the process,” Mayfield said. “We will try to guide them through the process as best we can. Just stay in touch with us and if we are asking for informa-

tion, just provide us with it as soon as they can or are able too.”

IRS

According to Vox, 57.4 percent of IRS employees are still working, though the majority are working without pay. This number increased due to tax season before this the IRS only had about 10 percent of their workers employed. Only parts of the IRS are working during the shutdown, including electronic returns, mailing tax forms, processing returns with payments and appeals. This should allow people to electronically submit or mail in their tax returns and get their tax refunds regardless of the shutdown.

According to the IRS’s contingency plan, many other services have been halted, including all audit functions, legal counsel, non-automated collections and return examinations among other operations. The plan also states they may restart some of these programs depending on how long the shutdown lasts.

Food and Drug Administration

According to the FDA, 41 percent of FDA employees have been furloughed. This lack of staff, as well as funding, has required the FDA to stop some routine food safety inspections on a variety of foods at high risk of contamination including seafood, fruits and vegetables. The FDA is not checking for things like salmonella, E. coli, pest infestations and improper handling of food.

According to the Smithsonian Magazine, the FDA conducts about 160 food inspections weekly and one-third are considered high risk, meaning they are more likely to possibly cause health problems. However, even foods that are considered low risk can also be the source of outbreaks and need to equally be checked to prevent illness.

Federal Workers

According to USA Today, 380,00 federal employees have been furloughed, meaning they have been temporarily laid off. USA Today also estimated 420,000 employees were working without pay because their jobs are considered essential.

However, Jan. 16 President Trump created the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019. The bill guarantees once funding is restored to all federal agencies, every federal employee will receive back pay whether they were allowed to work during the shutdown or not. According to the bill, back pay will be provided to workers “at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.”

Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., said Trump made the right decision in passing the Fair Treatment Act as it gives furloughed workers peace of mind.

“Better to know that you are going to get paid then to wonder if you are going to get paid,” Blunt said. “But it’s still not helpful when you’ve got bills to pay and you don’t get paid.”

Food Stamps

The Department of Agriculture oversees both the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children is currently unfunded. However, the USDA announced a plan to provide benefits to participants until the end of February. When the funding for the USDA expired Dec. 21, SNAP benefits for January were fully funded.

According to the USDA, while federal funding for WIC has been suspended, it will continue to operate on state and local levels with any remaining funding and resources available. The USDA also

states the Child Nutrition Programs, which includes thing like child and adult care feeding, school lunches and breakfasts will continue to operate into February.

However, Blunt said if the shutdown continues into February, this could cause a number of problems as there is no failsafe in place after that.

“We don’t want to get to the point where the SNAP program, used to be called the food stamp program, becomes a problem,” Blunt said. “All those things begin to get more significantly troublesome in February than they are right now. We need to be sure we are working to see that we don’t get to February, that we get the government open.”

It is unknown exactly when the shutdown will end but Blunt said he believes there could be a solution to the shutdown.

“My guess is what it takes (to end the shutdown) is to actually to put more things on the table,” Blunt said. “Sometimes, when you are locked into a moment where you just can’t seem to find a way to move, most sides are set in place, you just have to make the problem bigger. Eisenhower had a view in World War II that when you had this kind of problem, the best way to solve it often was, ‘What do we need to put on the table to make it bigger?’”

Blunt also believes taking a few problems at a time and trying to solve them may help to solve the problems currently prolonging the shutdown.

“I think what the President started this weekend is the opportunity now to say, ‘OK, if that’s not enough, what else do we need to get on the table and try to solve?’ The questions that we know need to be dealt with in the short term horizon, why don’t we do that right now would be my sense of trying to solve this,” Blunt said.

BLUNT  
CONTINUED FROM A1

A driving force behind the government shutdown is President Donald Trump’s request for funding to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Blunt said he is in the support of the border wall.

“I think the border barriers make sense, walls make sense,” Blunt said. “There is a legitimate expectation of the federal government to secure its borders. There are places where the best way to do that is to build a barrier and that’s where I believe the President is now.”

Blunt and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., proposed the Bipartisan Budget and Appropriation Reform Act of 2019 to solve problems that have become an annual issue.

“We’re proposing only having one budget every two years, not going through this annual exercise that we don’t have to go through,” Blunt said. “We, frankly, propose having the President less involved in the budget process. That has nothing to do with the current president, it’s just that since 1974 the presidents are supposed to have to present a budget, but almost all the time since 1974, that budget never has much impact, doesn’t get many votes.”

Blunt said they would instead like the president to tell them how last year’s money was spent and then let Congress move forward in deciding how to prioritize spending money.

“We should look for ways to have a government funded in a timely way with a big public debate and put the bills on the President’s desk a few at a time rather than have one big set of multiple issues to deal with all at once every single year,” Blunt said.

Blotters for the week of Jan. 24

Maryville Public Safety

Jan. 8

There is an ongoing investigation for failure to return rental property at the 2000 block of South Main Street.

Jan. 18

A summons was issued to **Dustin Winter**, 24, from Clearmont, Missouri, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

There is an ongoing investigation of larceny at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

Northwest Missouri University State Police Department

Jan. 13

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation at Dietrich Hall.

Jan. 15

There is an ongoing investigation for harassment at Tower Suites.

Jan. 16

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at Lot 38.

Jan. 19

There is a closed investigation for eight liquor law violations in Tower Suites.

There is an ongoing investigation for sexual assault in Dietrich Hall.

NEWS BRIEF

Sexual assault in Dietrich Hall

The University Police Department received a report for sexual assault at approximately 2 a.m. Jan. 19.

The sexual assault is said to have occurred in Dietrich Hall.

University Police Chief Clarence Green said SSM Health St. Francis Hospital contacted the University Police Department, requesting a police officer to respond.

The accused is a young male who was taken into custody by the University Police Department. A campus-wide alert was not sent regarding this incident.

“Based on the information that we have so far, it’s an isolated event really targeted between those two individuals,” Green said. “So we didn’t feel that it was a significant threat to the campus community, as well as we have that individual in our custody. He still remains in our custody right now.”

The accused is being held in custody for reasons other than this incident. The University Police Department is working on acquiring a warrant for the accused’s arrest for the other reasons.

The University Police Department is waiting to re-interview the survivor at this time for them to decide how they would like to proceed moving forward.



SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

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NWM PET OF THE WEEK

WANT TO HAVE YOUR PET AS THE PET OF THE WEEK? EMAIL S527739@NWMISSOURI.EDU WITH YOUR BEST PET PICTURES.



**Age:** 3 years old

**Pet:** African Sulcata Tortoise

**Fun Fact:** Her species of tortoise is the third largest tortoise breed in the world.

**Favorite Food:** Mixed lettuce from Lettuce Dream.

**Dislikes:** Being picked up... She will pee on you.

SICKERS

HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

You can't predict how people will react, Aries. What you find humorous may bend someone else out of shape. If you suspect a joke won't go over wll, keep it to yourself.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Keep your eyes open and you just may stumble onto something new and fasci-nating this week, Taurus. Now is a good time to explore new ideas and inte-grate them.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

You are not one to walk away from a challenge, Gemini. This week you may be confronted with a challenging obstacle. De-vote all of your attention to the task at hand.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Something will bring a smile to your face early in the week, Cancer. There is pretty much nothing that will wipe this smile off of your face.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, try not to push your-self too much this week. Maintain a low profile and go through with your normal routine; otherwise, you might ruffle the wrong feathers.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Do not panic when a glitch occurs in your best-laid plans, Virgo. With a few easy modifications, you can work through it quickly. Look at the situation from a different angle.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, sometimes it can be easy for you to fixate on a particular way of doing things. Consider if others have a better way to tackle the same task.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Expect to reach a big mile-stone in your life in the next few days, Scorpio. This likely has something to do with your family or career. The praise is warranted.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You need to focus and get back to work this week, Sagittarius. If things have slipped through your fin-gers, it could take a little time to regain your momen-tum. You can do it.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Shop around for the best deals before making a large purchase, Capricorn. Take inventory of your finances so your next move does not prove a setback.

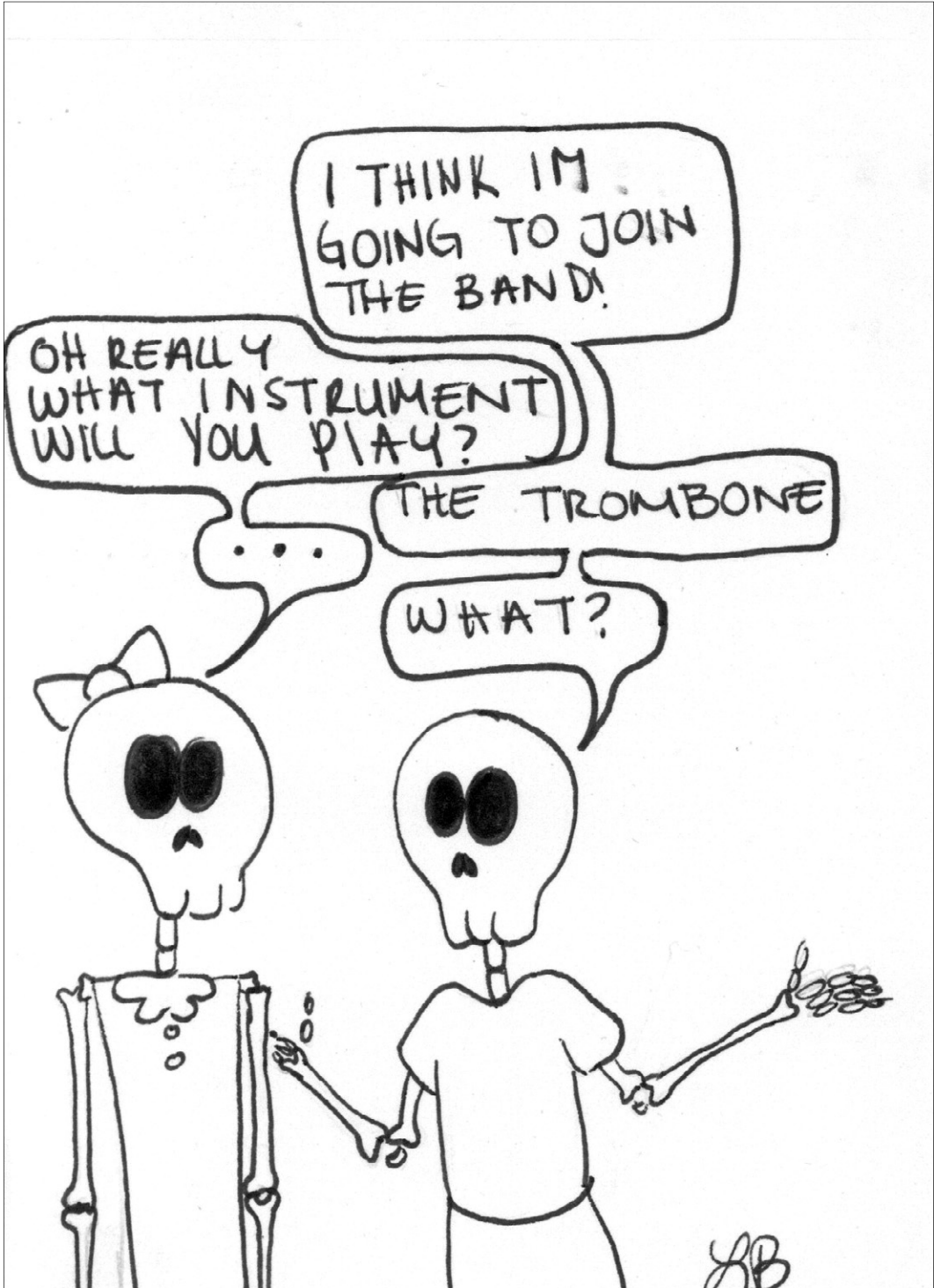
AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

You may be ready for something or someone new, Aquarius. Right now is a good time to connect with a new passion that can bring you even more success than you had imagined.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Try to focus your energies in a positive way, Pisces. You can accomplish what you set your mind to with the right attitude and perse- verance.

The Skeletwins



LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sheep sounds
- 5. Turn up
- 11. Statements of support
- 14. Spells
- 15. Evildoer
- 18. One-time baseball stadium staple
- 19. Activities
- 21. WWII-era US President
- 23. Soft, flexible leather
- 24. Proverb
- 28. Wish (Hindu)
- 29. Injury treatment
- 30. Red Sox ace
- 32. "Deadliest Catch" captain
- 33. Baseball stat
- 35. Where marine life lives
- 36. Heartbeat test
- 39. Signs on the dotted line
- 41. Atomic #24
- 42. Bind securely
- 44. Swiss Nobel Peace Prize winner
- 46. Fragrant brown balsam
- 47. Where you were born
- 49. Sells a ticket for more than its price
- 52. Where goods are presented
- 56. Jewish salutation
- 58. Fruits
- 60. Poorly educated
- 62. Microorganism
- 63. Depicted

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Ballplayer's tool
- 2. Hairdo
- 3. From a distance
- 4. Belt one out
- 5. Revising a text
- 6. More (Spanish)
- 7. Beloved Spielberg alien
- 8. BBQ dish
- 9. Provoke
- 10. Within
- 12. Canadian flyers
- 13. Smugly smile
- 16. Buffalo
- 17. Lake in the Kalahari Desert
- 20. Grab
- 22. Rural delivery
- 25. Equally
- 26. It's sometimes passed
- 27. Citizens who are qualified to vote
- 29. Greek letter
- 31. Body part
- 34. Boxing result
- 36. Newts
- 37. Predatory semiaquatic reptiles
- 38. Cockatoo
- 40. The NFL's big game (abbr.)
- 43. Leguminous east Indian tree

- 45. News reporting organization
- 48. A nemesis of Batman
- 50. Legal term
- 51. Not all
- 53. A way to greet
- 54. Knot in a tree
- 55. Satisfy
- 57. Russian space station
- 58. A baby's mealtime accessory
- 59. Stitch together
- 61. \_\_ and behold

Last Week Solutions

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# Semper Fi: Marine praises teamwork

SARAH VON SEGGERN  
A&E Asst. Editor | @SeggernSarah

While many people would define their life by what they have accomplished, military veteran and Northwest financial assistance counselor Chris Scroggins said he wouldn't be where he's at without his various teammates.

Teamwork is a word everybody knows but only a few people truly understand. For Scroggins, teamwork can be summed up perfectly in the words of Johnny Rico from "Starship Troopers."

At the start of the scene, the current lieutenant has died and Rico has been asked if he wants to take his position. Confidently, he answers in the words of the deceased lieutenant.

"I'll do it until it kills me or until you find someone better," Rico said.

This quote has stuck with Scroggins since he first watched "Starship Troopers."

"I absolutely love that answer because what he's saying there is that he'll take that job and lead that platoon to 100 percent of his ability because they have told him to do that," Scroggins said. "What he's also saying is that he'll do it until it kills him or until they find someone better. Now that's what I find awesome."

Taking this quote to heart, Scroggins works to better those around him. His efforts can most be seen through the Missouri Hope disaster relief simulation or Team Rubicon, an international non-profit organization aiming to help veterans by using disaster relief efforts as a way to integrate them better into civilian life.

Transfer Academic Advisor Brady Willis became friends with Scroggins during his year at Northwest in 2012 after getting out of the military a year prior. They connected through similar experiences and the true understanding of what it meant to lay your life on the line.

"Getting out of and being in the military was a pretty big connection," Willis said. "We don't like to talk about it a lot but it's nice to have a really close friend that understands the experiences and then what comes after that."

Beyond being friends, Willis said Scroggins is a great leader and does his best for everybody he helps.

"He empowers really well. That's one of his best traits, working with people," Willis said. "Just his leadership ability and then he usually pushes it into the teams he builds when we're working with Missouri Hope or any of his time working with Team Rubicon."

Humanities and Social Sciences professor Brian Hesse was one of Scroggins teachers at Northwest and has worked with Scroggins many times during the Missouri Hope simulations.

“  
I’ll do it until it kills me or until  
you find someone better.”  
-Johnny Rico

Hesse said he has such incredible admiration for Scroggins' ability to motivate people to do the best they can. He even goes on to discuss Team Rubicon and the impact it had on Scroggins.

"I think that's a fantastic organization that allowed Chris to thrive and further develop the skills that he already has in regards to servant leadership," Hesse said. "He's so service driven and to do that in the company of other vets ... That organization is amazing, but it's amazing because it has people like Chris Scroggins in it."

Scroggins said the most important aspect to leading is the ability to follow as well.

"The important part of leadership is followership ... Especially being in the Marines and you know leading a team over in Iraq and leading Team Rubicon people here in the States, one thing I realized was important was to be a good leader, you have to be a good follower," Scroggins said. "You need to be able to backup your leaders."

Scroggins' journey to joining the military was a tough one, full of life-altering decisions and experiences he would never forget.

Before Scroggins joined, he was just a country boy raised and born in Oregon, Missouri, where he was home-schooled by his mother while his dad worked at a factory.

Scroggins' dad instilled the importance of loyalty in him when he was younger which helped him when it came to his military service.

"He taught me about loyalty to family, loyalty to your partner ... You should always be loyal. That was always a very big deal," Scroggins said. "When I went into the Marines, I could really understand that. I had a very strong bond with the guys in my platoon. They felt like my family. I knew more about them than I did most of my family."

After dropping out of college, he decided to join the United States Marine Corps infantry team. Even with his military training, Scroggins wasn't prepared for the life-threatening experience. It took his first fire fight to truly understand how fragile life is.

"I was crouched down by my Humvee and I was re-loading. I could hear the bullets going all around me and I could see them hitting the ground. I knew I had

to stand up and start shooting because I saw my buddies were all around me shooting," Scroggins said. "I remember the only thing going through my mind was if I put my head up right now, it could very easily get taken off by a bullet."

During this time, he said he began thinking about his friends, family and everybody back home. Watching his friends around him though brought him back to reality.

"The training kind of took over and you look over and see your brothers all around you fighting, and then you realize you can't let them fight by themselves and that's kind of what keeps you going," Scroggins said.

After this incident, he survived four improvised explosive device detonations in Iraq. Three of them were in his first deployment in 2006. The last IED was the worst in his 2008 deployment.

When his Humvee hit an underground IED in his last deployment, Scroggins ended up in the hospital for three weeks with a grade three concussion and ruptured eardrum. Due to his injuries, he was awarded the Purple Heart, which is given to members of the armed forces who are wounded by an instrument of war or who were killed in action.

"I always like to make the joke that the Purple Heart is like the 'I forgot to duck award,'" Scroggins said. "One of those things that makes me proud about it is knowing some of the guys I know who had theirs and the legacy that it carries with it as well."

Willis shared the same sentiment and humor Scroggins did about the Purple Heart.

"He needs to learn how to duck," Willis said. "I like to give him a hard time, but he sacrificed a lot over there and went through a lot. It's a miracle he was here, and I wouldn't be the same if he wasn't. I'm glad he got the Purple Heart because it means that he is here still."

Despite being awarded the Purple Heart, Scroggins doesn't see it in a negative light and doesn't let it define him. In the end, it helped shape him as a person and keeps him moving forward.

"You always have to keep pushing forward," Scroggins said. "There's always light at the end of the tunnel, and sometimes it's not a train."



SUBMITTED  
Chris Scroggins and Lance Cpl. James Ziolkowski stand in the desert near the Syrian border on his last deployment in 2008, the day before he was injured from the IED explosion.



SUBMITTED  
With more than 22 million military veterans in the United States, Team Rubicon is an organization looking to utilize these veterans in natural disaster situations. Scroggins has been part of Team Rubicon since spring 2016.



SUBMITTED  
Scroggins and Cpl. Michael DiVirgilio were awarded a Purple Heart in Twentynine Palms, California, after they were injured from the underground IED.



Scroggins recently started his second semester working in the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid, where he works closely with students who have served in the military and students from military families.  
MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN





Northwest freshman Daniel Harris performs music for Martin Luther King Peace Brunch attendees on his viola. Harris’ music was featured several times during the Jan. 21 brunch. AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

# Campus brunch honors history

**JESSE REED**  
A&E Reporter | @reedjesselee

A room full of empowerment sharply contrasted the cold weather Jan. 21. Playing host to several students, faculty, community members and even Sen. Roy Blunt, the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Brunch united the community behind the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The event, hosted by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, consisted of a brunch buffet alongside several speakers. However, the emphasis was on keynote speaker and Northwest alumna Pamela Westbrook-Hodge.

Westbrook-Hodge graduated from Northwest in 1991. Her speech covered several points from four key “nuggets” for ensuring

success and inclusion for all students and community members to a workshop she created called the “Scholarship Solution.”

Westbrook-Hodge also expressed how meaningful the event was to her.

“Awe-inspiring, deeply meaningful, in particular, because planning this event helped me hone the skills that made me who I am today,” Westbrook-Hodge said. “This is walking into my beginnings being at this event.”

She explained how Northwest has become more inclusive since 1991.

“The most glaring changes are two things,” Westbrook-Hodge said. “The infrastructure improvements are deeply meaningful because the most visible sign of prosperity is the physical evidence of it.”

The second change she noted was the creation of the DEI office.

“The most impactful sign of progress is the existence of a DEI team and an intentional focus on ensuring that people who are from other places feel included,” Westbrook-Hodge said.

She further elaborated saying the DEI office would have helped her.

The things that they do now, we did for ourselves like all of the planning,” Westbrook-Hodge said. “And so, it’s cutting my teeth on all of that, that made me who I am.”

Alongside the infrastructure and DEI office, the MLK Peace Brunch has also evolved.

Vice President of the DEI office Juanita Simmons explained how the event has come to be what it is now.

“This is the eighth annual Mar-

tin Luther King Brunch on this campus,” Simmons said. “How it has evolved is the first so many years they did a march and then the brunch. The last two years we’ve done a day of service so that we can give back to the community in the spirit of Dr. King. And it outgrew itself.”

The growth and value of the event have only been helped by speakers such as Westbrook-Hodge, according to Simmons.

“It (Westbrook-Hodge’s keynote speech) was dynamic and it was very heart-wrenching,” Simmons said. “You could tell she actually came from her heart speaking ... I hope that they (students) will take her message away. For them to understand that the only way America can become good, America can become the democracy that we pro-

file ourselves to be, is for everyone to take on a spirit of humanitarianism. We’ve got to begin to care about others.”

Freshman criminology major Kevin Nguyen agreed with Simmons.

“I think the keynote speaker Pamela Westbrook-Hodge ... was the most impactful, just listening to her story,” Nguyen said. “That influenced me. I had a scripted thing that I was reading, but after she spoke, some of the things I started out by saying ... challenging them [the students] to work for a better future, those things came from the heart after hearing what she had to say.”

MLK Week will continue with Stephon Ferguson’s performance “MLK Reborn” Jan. 24 at 6:30 p.m.

THE STROLLER:

## Your Bearcat wants better sidewalks

“Slippery When Wet” is a better Bon Jovi album than conditions walking to class.

I should not have to risk my butt getting sore and soaked from falling on the slick sidewalks when traveling between classes.

Yes, colleges are known for not canceling classes as quickly as high schools, but Northwest is notorious for not canceling classes during harsh, winter conditions.

In my three years attending Northwest, I have experienced two legitimate snow days and we were in an actual blizzard.

It often seems the University doesn’t take students, faculty and staff into consideration when deciding if classes should be canceled.

Many of us live off campus and don’t feel confident or comfortable driving on icy roads. As for those who do live on campus, it’s already a struggle to march from Millikan to get food.

We don’t want to have to walk across campus and risk injury just to sit in a class the professor doesn’t even want to be at because their car would win gold in curling at the 2018 Winter Olympics.

Weather plays an important part in the safety. The safety of students, faculty and staff should be the biggest factor in cancelling classes before 12:35 p.m.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

# Exhibit connects art students

**JAMES CHRISTENSEN**  
A&E Reporter | @jameschris1701

A new ceramics exhibit was installed in the Olive Deluce Gallery Jan. 14 and served as an introduction to the art of ceramics.

Veronica Watkins, a ceramics lecturer for the fine arts department, brought the showcase to the Northwest campus.

“The showcase features the first-hand features of the graduate students studying sculpture and ceramics at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln,” Watkins said. “I proposed the idea of inviting them to our art faculty, and they were supportive of the idea.”

The showcase features a number of examples of ceramics ranging from vases to metalworks that reach out of the walls.

“That is another great aspect of this exhibit,” Watkins said. “Many materials and processes are used and with the process demonstrations as well. A student might be inspired or see a new technique or material they can pull into their work that they hadn’t considered before.”

Sophomore art education major Sam Grigsby was happy to see the wide variety of ceramics displayed in the showcase.

“There are just so many things you can do in ceramics,” Grigsby said. “The possibilities are endless. From functional pieces like mugs, steins and teapots to show pieces such as sculptures, raku fired pots and vases. There is just so much to do in this field. It is most definitely a major field in art.”

Watkins sees this showcase as an important opportunity for students interested in art and for those wanting to learn more about ceramics.

“I see this as an beneficial opportunity for us and them, a type of collaboration. Graduate students can benefit from opportunities to talk about their work and process publicly as well as exhibit their work,” Watkins said. “Our under-

graduate students get to see some great work and learn more about a graduate school experience. We are anxious to learn more about what fuels their ideas and see the processes they use up close as they share with us in our studios.”

Grigsby said this type of showcase is a source of inspiration not only for current undergraduate students but also to inspire future artists.

“It is important to showcase graduate work because it gives us students something to strive for,” Grigsby said. “We can compare style techniques and many other things that will help us to improve our work. It is also very enjoyable to be able to look at other people’s work, especially those who are already successful.”

Watkins shared a similar sentiment and said this showcase would be a win-win for the graduate students of UNL and the undergraduate students of Northwest.

“My intention with this exhibit was to present an opportunity not only for our students, but the graduate students of UNL,” Watkins said. “I hoped that the experience of curating their own group show, giving artist talks and process demonstrations would benefit the UNL students as well. If I am right, this will be a win-win scenario for Northwest and UNL.”

Watkins went on to describe this showcase as an excellent example for students that allows them to interact with other artists in the field.

“Our students get to see a nice variety of work at next level. Also, they will get to see some process demonstrations and artist talks and ask questions,” Watkins said. “For the cost of what would normally bring in one artist, we are able to get several simultaneously so our students see a broader exposure.”

The showcase is on display in the Olive Deluce Gallery until Feb. 7th and will culminate in a demonstration from Sophia Ruppert and Neil Celani, two of the artists featured in the showcase.



JAMES CHRISTENSEN | NW MISSOURIAN

P. J. Hargraves’ “Dowsing for Truth No. 4 Oil” and Matt Carlson’s “Untitled #14” were among the pieces exhibited in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Ceramic Showcase in the Olive Deluce Gallery.



NW WOMEN  
CONTINUED FROM A12

The Bearcats have made strides in the team scoring defense category, jumping from last place in the MIAA to sixth in a matter of just one season. Under former coach Buck Scheel, Northwest allowed 74.1 points per game. Over the course of the 2018-2019 season, that number has decreased to just 60.9 points per contest.

Coming up for Northwest is a two-game road trip to square off against Nebraska-Kearney and a Fort Hays State team that is currently ranked atop the MIAA standings as well as being the eighth best team in all of Division II women's basketball.

One win or one loss can jump a team multiple spots in the conference standings and can make or break a squad toward the end of the season. Meyer perceives playing within the MIAA gauntlet as very advantageous for both his coaches and the team.

"We have a team motto that we use almost every day at practice and is one of our keys to winning for every game, and it's 'Fear nothing; attack everything,'" Hayward said. "We take that motto into every drill we do. By taking it into each game, we have a no fear mentality and no matter who the opponent, we just expect to come in and play hard and compete for 40 minutes."



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Sophomore guard Mallory McConkey drives hard to the basket to put up a layup against Missouri Western Jan. 19 in St. Joseph. Northwest fell to Missouri Western 66-43 for its tenth loss of the season.

COLUMN  
CONTINUED FROM A12

Players like Hudson Bilodeau, Mondesi Gutierrez, Trevor Dudar and the rest of the cast showed potential on the field last year and soaked in the culture. Now it's their time to give back and show the younger group what can happen if you truly dig in.

As mentioned before, external facilities play a big role in improv-

ing the prestige of the program for years to come, the Hughes Fieldhouse is probably the biggest contributor to this.

An indoor complex with brand new batting cages sounds like a pretty good opportunity for future recruits. But the biggest seller in that is the fieldhouse really represents the culture that Northwest perceives when it comes to the views of athletics.

Loe knows these aspects, and he has felt this pressure before. In

2003, Loe took the Bearcats to the regional qualifier and put together three straight seasons of winning 34 plus games. This was the first time they had qualified since the 1980s when they made it on four separate occasions.

Now as an established coach, Loe has an opportunity to take a youthful team and put them back to the circuit of victories like the team did in the '80s. With the help of those facilities, this dream of a comeback to glory may soon be a reality.

Chiefs destined to disappoint routinely



ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor  
@andrew\_wegley21

For Kansas City sports fans, the Chiefs' loss in the AFC title game may hurt a little less by now.

It's been nearly a week since Kansas City, with its best shot at a Super Bowl in at least two decades, and perhaps even more than half a century, watched its dreams fade in overtime at the hands of the New England Patriots.

After a few decades worth of playoff collapses, this feeling of disappointment in and around Kansas City in mid-January is as routine as the sunrise. But after a wildly successful season and the emergence of star quarterback Patrick Mahomes, fans and pundits alike convinced themselves that this season would be different.

Except it wasn't. Well, it was, but the part that mattered wasn't. Mahomes was excellent all season, and Kansas City's offense was as efficient as it's ever been. But in the end, that didn't really matter.

The team itself was different, yet the ending followed the same old script. These aren't your father's Chiefs or your older brother's Chiefs. They're really not even the same Chiefs we saw a season ago. Everything was different but the outcome.

It would seem as though that every Chiefs game played in mid-January is destined to produce one result, while the contests themselves are health-hazards to Kansas Citians with a rooting interest. Every single year, we desperately hope it will end differently, and every single year the disappointment feels the same.

It's true that in this season's playoff upset the Chiefs did not blow a double-digit lead. They did not miss any field goals, lose to a team without allowing a touchdown or watch an opposing quarterback

throw a touchdown to himself. This time around, the misfortune took a different form.

Missed calls aside, the Chiefs did not help their own case against New England. The offense did not score in the first half in a game that went into overtime. And what would have been a game-changing interception was negated due to a blatant and ill-timed offsides penalty.

Regardless of how the loss came, it indeed came. It's the Chiefs. It's what they do. And we let them do it to us every year.

They'll play good enough long enough-- be it over the course of a season or just a quarter of a specific game-- just to get our hopes up, making the inevitable disappointment that follows considerably more gut-wrenching. Yet we buy in year after year, hoping for something different.

Instead, we get the same. They'll get hot at the right time but cool off when it matters most. They'll cap off an unbelievable comeback with some sort of sobering mistake, be it a clock management blunder, a defensive break down, an offsides penalty or losing the overtime coin toss.

With the Chiefs, the only true constant is misfortune, usually aided by a monumental mistake courtesy of the team's personnel.

This offseason, they'll make staff changes, new promises and bold predictions. They've already fired defensive coordinator Bob Sutton, and a new hire will undoubtedly come to town and assure that things will change. But they never do.

From top to bottom, everyone attached to the franchise will speak of better days to come. While the Chiefs' future seems promising, the prospect of a brighter tomorrow doesn't do much for the darkness of today.

As a fanbase starved for a championship, we'll hang on every word they say and hope that things are different next time, just like we always do. Because that's all we can do: hope for something different.

NW MEN  
CONTINUED FROM A12

The Lopers accounted for one of Northwest's four losses a season ago, beating the Bearcats 66-59 in Kearney. In some ways, the first half of the upcoming trip could serve as a revenge tour for the new-look Bearcats.

Despite their excellence on the road over much of the last three seasons, McCollum said there is no added emphasis placed on winning games as visitors. The 8-0 road stretch is just a matter of happenstance.

"We've never made a big deal of it, we just kind of go play," McCollum said. "I think that helps. They count for the same amount of losses as they do at home, so let's just go win them. That has been our mentality."

McCollum said the Bearcats seem to play better away from Bearcat Arena at times, for reasons that are beyond explanation. Senior forward Dray Starzl, who has seen limited minutes off the bench this season, shed light on the phenomenon from a differing perspective.

"It's actually my second time ever going (to Hays), but the stadium is really cool to be in, so that's pretty exciting," Starzl said. "Road games are fun for us because we get to hang out with each other, and we all love each other. We bring our own energy to away games, and it's fun to silence the crowd. It'll be fun."

The sometimes-lighthearted atmosphere surrounding the program is perhaps best on display when Starzl is on the bench, often leading celebrations after teammates drain threes or convert crafty layups. From an external perspective, Starzl seems to be the unspoken leader of Northwest's bench theatrics.

"We don't plan them at all," Starzl said. "We just spontaneous(ly) celebrate. I just love seeing my teammates out there succeed, so we just help them out and bring the energy on the bench. (We) make sure they keep going and going and going."

Despite the enjoyment that comes with cross-state trips, there comes a certain degree of edge and toughness required to play for Northwest men's basketball. The pressure to perform for Northwest is unlike that of any other MIAA program, and the touted culture surrounding the program is as real as it is talked about.

This is partly why the Bearcats' roster sits at just 10 players as is, and why McCollum has no inten-



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman guard Xavier Rhodes slams a breakaway dunk to emphasize Northwest's 87-64 win over Missouri Western Jan. 19 in St. Joseph.

tion of changing that until next season at the earliest.

"I'd rather not have anybody than have somebody that I don't want," McCollum said. "The guys that I have, I want. I like them. They're good players. I also think that depth, to a certain level, the way depth is perceived from an external (view) is somewhat overrated."

On the surface, Northwest's roster may appear to lack depth. That's not how McCollum sees it.

"I've got 10 guys that can go in the game, and I think I've got more depth than anybody," McCollum said. "To be quite honest, some of the guys that don't see as many minutes (here) are better than most other people's starters. It's quality

over quantity in my mind."

McCollum pointed to Northwest's unrelenting will to win as a driving factor in the team's success. The Bearcats claim to take each game as serious as the next, and their perfect season thus far has proved to be a byproduct of that persistent dedication.

"It's the ability to get up every game," McCollum said. "I just don't know that there's a lot of teams that want to do that, and that want to be great every day in practice, and have that mental toughness to do that. The more that we can get kids that will fight, compete and stay with that longevity piece, the more games we're going to win."

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Jan. 24, 2019

# Conference meet yields mixed results for wrestling

GEORDON GUMM  
Missourian Reporter | @geordon97gumm

Maryville wrestling battled in the Midland Empire Conference championship Jan. 21 in Savannah.



The 'Hounds came away with a sixth-place finish from the boys and a fifth-place finish from the girls squad. Despite the low finish as a team, Maryville has many positives to take and learn from as the season progresses.

A handful of wrestlers medaled, while Sophomore Kieren Watkins and Junior Amber Ebrecht were both able to come away with individual conference championships. Watkins took the 195-pound boys championship and Ebrecht came away with the 167-pound girls championship.

Coach Kody Koster was satisfied with the finish for both groups, though he did hope for a better outcome. Koster saw growth in his teams but still believes there is work to be done.

"All in all, the day went well for us," Koster said. "The tournament provided us with a lot of opportunities for our wrestlers to learn from. The competition in our conference is at a pretty high level, so it just allows us to get more experience under our belts as well."

The boys squad had three wrestlers medal and two narrowly miss the podium finishing in fourth. Koster was pleased with the placing and the effort the boys put into the tournament.

"Watkins has a gritty attitude on the mat, which shows when he wrestles," Koster said. "He's a guy who knows what he wants to do with his opponent and does what he can to carry that out in the match. To place first at the MEC tournament will also help when it comes to seeding for districts."

Koster came away from the tournament with some confidence in the way the boys were competing on the mat, as did Sophomore Connor Weiss.

UP NEXT

Maryville @ Varsity Triangular  
5:30 p.m. Jan. 24  
Bedford, Iowa

Maryville @ Varsity Tournament Senior Night  
10 a.m. Jan. 26  
Maryville

"Even though I didn't have a great day in the tournament, it was nice to see my teammates have a successful day," Weiss said. "We want to send a handful of guys to state to show the program is changing."

The direction Koster would like to take the program is steadily improving throughout this season. The program has been forced to change due to lack of competition in years past.

Koster was just as pleased with the outcome from the girls' squad.

"Amber just has some traits that you cannot really coach," Koster said. "She really knows how to build off of her wins and losses. She has the drive to be the best wrestler on the mat at all times, that is just not something most athletes have."

The girls were all able to place on the podium taking a gold, silver, and bronze medal in their respective weight classes. Koster saw many positive things from the girls in the conference tournament.

"The girls have been improving day-by-day throughout the entire season," Koster said. "They should end the year strong as they have been competing at a high level lately."

With the end of the season approaching Maryville is preparing to compete in districts and possibly state. The attitude of the team appeared as though they had something to prove with the postseason coming. The best way for the team to accomplish this goal is to send as many athletes to districts and state.



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior guard Creid Stoecklein drives the ball while eyeing his defender during the Spoofhounds' 57-32 victory over Savannah Jan. 17.

## Spoofhounds looking forward to MEC play

TRENT SPINNER  
Chief Reporter | @trentspinner

As the Maryville boys basketball season edges toward pivotal conference matchups, they must first face their weaknesses in the Cameron tournament.



The Spoofhounds search for that tough demeanor as they hope to expose their weaknesses and conquer them before the bulk of conference play.

As the week started, so did the Spoofhounds, as they are attending the Cameron basketball tournament throughout the week. The first leg of the tournament was set to start Tuesday afternoon but was postponed to Wednesday afternoon due to inclement weather.

Maryville is searching for an extra boost as they head into the final leg of the season that deals mostly with conference opponents.

"We are looking to win it for the second year in a row and just to improve on our weaknesses," coach Matt Stoecklein said. "To fix some of our weaknesses and to clean up some of our execution."

Thus far, the Spoofhounds have only played two Midland Empire Conference games, splitting the decisions and leaving them sitting in the middle of the pact.

With only a few weeks to go, it's time for Maryville to battle their demons in the Cameron tournament.

One of the Spoofhounds' goals was to grow in toughness, and after the Savannah game, they did just that with a 57-32 victory. Even so, they still have room to grow before they take that next step into the back part of the season.

The conference games for Maryville are just the warmups to the actual goals that the Spoofhounds set back at the beginning of the season.

"Our goal is to make it to state," senior guard Eli Dowis said.

Before the season began, the trend of the basketball team was simple: to make it to the state championship and celebrate with the trophy held high.

The Spoofhounds rode with the concept of #30 (hashtag 30) because it symbolizes the 30 games they must play to make it to state. Even now with the season nearing the do or die period, no players are backing away from the challenge.

The coach and all the players know that to complete the ultimate goal, the key is to remain mentally strong through the process. The Spoofhounds still are haunted by the loss to Lafayette earlier in the season, where they were called soft.

UP NEXT

Maryville vs Excelsior Springs  
5:15 p.m. Jan. 24  
Cameron

Since that point, it's been the main criterion to fight with grit and determination as they head into battle.

"We want to continue to find the energy to put together a complete game as we did against Savannah," Stoecklein said. "As for the rest of the season, we are dreaming big and looking to make a run to the final four and make sure we start playing now like we need to make that happen."

Even the simplest of things can affect the game and Stoecklein understands the frustrations sometimes. But the only way to determine a champion compared to an average team is how they respond in the moments when they can not be mentally tough.

"We are looking to be challenged in many of those games and to get a tough mindset to help us finish in close games at the end of the season," Stoecklein said. "We can't let calls or non-calls by refs or a mistake or missed shot affect how we play."

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# Building year set to benefit Bearcats



With a new chapter in Darin Loe’s tenure with the Northwest baseball team, the story is headed toward a bright spot that has not surfaced on this campus since the 1980s.

As the baseball season rears its head into the picture, the Bearcats are just a few steps away from making themselves a perennial threat in the MIAA.

Last year the season began with a slump and led to a quick write-off by the naysayers. Starting 1-5, it was an unfavorable situation for the Bearcats, but the team had one characteristic that defined them: streaky.

When they entered into MIAA play, it was not hard to see that against these familiar foes they found success. Northwest finished last season 30-22 with an MIAA record of 25-11.

The main aspect that made the 2018 campaign for the Bearcats so special was the fact that they accomplished something 38 years in the making. For the first time since 1983, Northwest baseball was able to hoist the MIAA title in the regular season.

Now the program standards are set higher and expectations for the upcoming years weigh heavily on the shoulders of Loe.

With a little help from external facilities such as the new Hughes Fieldhouse, Loe’s window for success greatly widens in regards to the recruiting trail. This season, the Bearcats will be a strong contender, but will more than likely fall short of being last year’s predecessor.

As close to half of last year’s starting nine graduated, the task of repeating as MIAA champions seems improbable. But something the seniors did help leave behind was a revitalized recruiting path.

During the break, Loe hit the recruiting path hard and pulled together the No. 17 ranked recruiting class in NCAA Division II. To go along with that a roster filled predominantly with underclassmen, showcases a real chance to develop strong program stability.

Though last year’s seniors got the opportunity to garnish themselves with accomplishments, this year’s seniors get the chance to dig into the program and build a more lasting impact.

SEE COLUMN | A9



Freshman guard Diego Bernard scores on a breakaway layup in the second half of Northwest’s game against Missouri Western Jan. 19 in St. Joseph. The Bearcats beat Missouri Western 87-64 to remain undefeated on the season.

## ’Cats head out on revenge tour

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21

Northwest men’s basketball is preparing to set off on a road trip that, on the surface, seems like it should yield two conference victories.

The No.2 Bearcats (17-0, 7-0 MIAA) are one of two remaining undefeated teams in the country, boasting the longest win streak



(17) in Division II basketball and the third-longest win streak on the road (8).

Standing in Northwest’s way of a 19-0 record is Nebraska-Kearney (6-11, 1-7 MIAA) and Fort Hays State (12-5, 6-2 MIAA). Fort Hays State alone has lost as many games this season as Northwest has in the last three seasons combined.

By all statistics and logic, the upcoming road trip for Northwest should be as easy as any other for

the Bearcats, who have only played three contests this season decided by less than 10 points. Still, coach Ben McCollum doesn’t see it that way.

“I think (Kearney’s) going to be a really difficult game regardless of road, home, whatever,” McCollum said. “They’re just a tough matchup for us. We’re going to need to be at our best to be able to win out there.”

SEE NW MEN | A9

### UP NEXT

**Northwest @ Nebraska Kearney**  
7:30 p.m. Jan. 24  
Kearney, Neb.

**Northwest @ Fort Hays State**  
4 p.m. Jan. 26  
Hays, Kan.

## Women’s basketball feeling wrath of MIAA



Senior guard Mallory McAndrews pulls up for a three at the top of the key in the first half of Northwest’s 66-43 loss to Missouri Western Jan. 19 in St. Joseph.

TUCKER QUINN  
Chief Reporter | @Tuck\_Quinn

At the midway point of the 2019 Northwest women’s basketball season, coach Austin Meyer and his staff are feeling the weight of the MIAA conference on their shoulders.

After going on a three-game win streak with victories over Quincy, Northeastern State and Central Oklahoma, Northwest (6-10, 2-5 MIAA) has followed the success with a three-game skid and the road ahead doesn’t get any easier for the Bearcats.

With the most recent loss coming at the hands of Missouri Western (9-7, 4-3 MIAA) Jan. 19, the Bearcats shot a season-low 23.8 percent from the floor during the contest and were held to just one made basket from behind the arc.

“It’s just kind of where we are at offensively right now,” Meyer said. “But to still be hanging around in a game where the tempo was a lot slower than what we wanted, I got to give the girls credit.”

Though their field goal percentage has lacked, the Bearcats own the second-best free throw percentage in the country, averaging 80.4 percent as a team. This decimal trails only Lenoir-Rhyne University at 80.7 percent. Northwest drained 22 of 28 free throws during



### UP NEXT

**Northwest @ Nebraska Kearney**  
5:30 p.m. Jan. 24  
Kearney, Neb.

**Northwest @ Fort Hays State**  
1:30 p.m. Jan. 26  
Hays, Kan.

the contest against Missouri Western (78.6 percent).

The Griffons have proved to be one of the conference’s most explosive offenses and Northwest’s defense held Missouri Western to just 26 points in the first half. Though the outcome of the game ended in favor of the Griffons 66-43, defense has been a huge emphasis for Meyer and his squad this season and it has definitely shown.

“We emphasize defense every single day in practice, and we are getting much better at translating that defensive intensity to all 40 minutes,” student assistant Mason Hayward said. “Even with teams longer, taller or very athletic, we take pride on our defensive principles that allow us to be in right positions.”

SEE NW WOMEN | A9